State of California Regional Water Quality Control Board San Diego Region

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT

August 10, 2005

ITEM:

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SUBJECT:

SeaWorld San Diego: Administrative Assessment of Civil Liability as a \$6,000 Mandatory Minimum Penalty against SeaWorld San Diego for violations of effluent limitations contained in Regional Board Order No. 2000-0025, Waste Discharge Requirements for SeaWorld San Diego, Discharge to Mission Bay. The Regional Board will consider adoption of an order accepting settlement of the proposed liability in response to Administrative Civil Liability Complaint No. R9-2005-0129. If the Regional Board rejects the settlement, the matter will be rescheduled to a future public hearing at which time the Regional Board will consider assessment of civil liability. (Tentative Order No. R9-2005-0223) (Mark Alpert)

**PURPOSE:** 

The Regional Board will consider accepting SeaWorld's signed waiver of public hearing and \$6,000 payment in settlement of the allegations in Administrative Civil Liability Complaint No. R9-2005-0129 (Document No. 4).

PUBLIC NOTICE:

A public notice was published in the San Diego Daily Transcript on June 3, 2005. The 30-day comment period ended on July 27, 2005. The item was also posted on the Regional Board web page.

**DISCUSSION:** 

On May 16, 2005 the Executive Officer issued Complaint No. R9-2005-0129 for Administrative Civil Liability with Mandatory Minimum Penalties in the amount of \$6,000 against SeaWorld San Diego for violations of effluent limitations contained in Order No. 2000-0025. The violations

included two total suspended solids that occurred on

December 15, 2004: 1) a daily maximum concentration of 40 mg/l (greater than 40% above the limit of 16.1 mg/l) and 2) a monthly average concentration of 40 mg/l (greater than 40% above the limit of 11.1 mg/l). In accordance with California Water Code sections 13385(h) these are serious violations,

which are each subject to the assessment of mandatory minimum penalty of three thousand dollars (\$3,000).

On June 7, 2005 SeaWorld San Diego waived its right to a public hearing and paid the liability proposed in the Complaint.

If the Regional Board does not adopt the tentative Order, a hearing will be scheduled for a future Regional Board meeting.

No comments concerning this matter have been received to date.

LEGAL CONCERNS:

None.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

(1) Location Maps

(2) Tentative Order No. R9-2005-0223

(3) Waiver of Hearing Form

(4) Administrative Civil Liability Complaint No. R9-2005-

0129 dated May 16, 2005.

RECOMMENDATION

The adoption of tentative Order No. R9-2005-0223 is

recommended.